

"Where is that?" do you ask? Read the first verse of the first Psalm: "Blessed is the man that * * * sitteth not in the seat of the scornful."

That seat may be a velvet-cushioned divan in a gilded palace or a three-legged stool in a poverty-stricken hut.

If you sit in the seat of the scornful, or with the scorner, you become worse than the ungodly man and the sinner, for the ungodly man walks on and may think of something good when the scenes change, and the sinner is yet too good to be contented to sit down among the meanest class and stay there making light of all that is good and true and holy.

The scorner will sit there and tell you that your blessed Saviour is a myth; that your dear old mother, who often kneels in the dark, alone with God, and begs His blessing upon you, is a fanatic; that the sweet sister who is now in Heaven perished like a beast and had no soul.

Fly from the scorner as you would fly from some dreadful disease. The scorner's heart is a graveyard of all hope, and every day he lives adds a link to the chain that will at last bind him hand and foot when he is cast into outer darkness.

If ever you have been so thoughtless as to scoff at the good or to scorn the true, fall upon your knees and cry for mercy.

Be careful where you sit, my boy.

Our Young People

Unattained

BY MRS. CARA W. BRONSON.

We cannot reach the goal we would,
In life's short day;
So many chilling barriers rise
Athwart our way;
The thorns so prick our feet, and seek
Our steps to stay.

The strength wherewith we fain would climb
We oft must spend
In mere endurance of the loss
The hour doth send.
What wonder if we fail and sink
Long ere the end!

Ah, well our Master judgeth not
By labors done.
By distant vantage-ground attained,
Or fair height won.
He judgeth truly when He comes
At set of sun.

The heart's intent He pondereth,
Nor doth forget
How sore the cords of circumstance
May bind and fret.
Enough for Him if one sure way
Our face is set.

—N. Y. Observer.

REJECTING CHRIST—MK. 12:1-12

Topic, March 4

DAILY READINGS

Mon.—Rom. 5:6-11, Proofs of the divine love.
Tues.—Gal. 1:1-5, Christ's attitude toward men.
Wed.—John 6:63, Overtures of the Spirit.
Thurs.—Matt. 23:29-39, The sin of rejection.
Fri.—Heb. 6:4-6, The re-crucifixion of Christ.
Sat.—Heb. 2:1-13, Indifference.
Sun.—Mark 12:1-12, Rejecting Christ.
Before Christ the Gentiles had conscience and the

Jews had the laws of Moses and the teaching of the prophets as their guide. But Christ revealed the love of God and brought life to men. Therefore they who accept him have their consciences quickened and are free from the law doing out of love naturally the things that ought to be done and leaving undone gladly the things that are evil. The blood of Christ atones for sin and his life gives power to keep from sin. In him therefore is the hope of the world and in him shall all things be brought to unity. Eph. 1:9-11.)

Apart from him there is none other name given among men whereby we must be saved. (Acts 4:12) He is the way the truth and the life. John 14:6, and no one cometh unto the Father but by him.

To reject him is to reject the "redemption thru his blood" (Eph. 1:7) and the salvation thru his life (Rom. 5:9-11.)

But he is the head of the church which is his body (Eph. 1:22-23) and entrance into that body is by the new birth (John 3:5) whose symbol is baptism (I Cor. 12:13) Therefore "He that is baptized into Christ hath put on Christ." (Gal. 3:27.)

These references are given to help meet those lazy moralists who claim to accept Christ but will not accept his church nor help to carry out his commands. (Matt. 28:19.)

The question of what it means to accept Christ is a large one and should be thoroughly studied by every Christian. But the question of what it means to reject Christ and the ways in which it may be done is also a large and vital one and should make this meeting full of interest. It might be led by the pastor or at least he might close with an appeal to the unconverted. Perhaps if all work and pray some one may accept Christ thru it.

REJECTING CHRIST

1 Rejecting Christ means rejecting God's will, Matt. 10:40; Matt. 7:21.

2 God has a right to expect obedient service from us. (Mark 12:1; Rom. 12:1) because of what he does for us (Acts 17:29; I Tim. 6:17) and because of his love manifested thru Christ (I Cor. 6:20; John 3:16)

3 Rejection may be thru ignorance (I Tim. 1:13) in which case there is mercy, or it may be wilful (John 5:40) in which case conscience is seared and the Spirit grieved away (Rom. 1:28; Heb. 10:26; Mk. 12:7.)

4 There are many ways of rejection. Unbelief (Heb. 4:11.) By evil works thru professing godliness (Titus 1:16.) by love of money (Mk. 10:21, 22; I Tim. 6:5-10.) by love of the worldly pleasures (II Tim. 3:1-5; 4:10.) by putting love of other persons and things first, (Matt. 10:37-40.) and by failing to be out and out, (Matt. 10:32, 33)

5 All must accept or reject, Matt. 12:30; Heb. 2:3

6 Rejection means judgment, John 12:48; Mk. 12:9; John 3:36; Matt. 7:13; Matt. 25:46; Eph. 4:17-19.

FOR ANSWER IN THE MEETING

- 1 What do we mean by "rejecting Christ?"
- 2 What is gained by rejecting Christ?
- 3 What is lost by rejecting Christ?
- 4 What is gained by accepting Christ?
- 5 What is lost by accepting Christ?
- 6 Why is rejection of Christ specially sinful? Heb. 10:25-30.
- 7 How long does one's opportunity of accepting or rejecting Christ last?
- 8 How early may we be guilty of rejecting Christ?
- 9 How may children reject Christ?
- 10 What can we do to get more people to accept Christ?

PERSONAL THOUGHT FOR EACH

Have I rejected Christ? Or having formally accepted him do I yet by retaining some unchristlike habit in reality reject him and bring reproach upon his name? Can I live the best life without accepting him completely?

C. F. YODER.

SERMON ECHOES

LOUIS S. BAUMAN

—Obedience is faith in action.

—Inward greatness detests outward show.

—Indifference to the cross is man's greatest sin.

—Prayer and song is salt in the devil's wounds.

—The Saviour of this world is the Judge of the next.

—The devil will never hold a mirror before his subject's face.

—When a man bars the door of his heart against Christ, he bars the door of Heaven against himself.

—Give a boy plenty of work if you would bring him up; give him plenty of money if you would bring him down.

—True faith knows how to wait.

—True love will outlive time and tide.

—Better a starved body than a starved mind.

—Hypocrites usually think all other hypocrites but themselves.

—Fortune will pay more for the music of the saw, than the music of the guitar.

—Many a man grasps your hand, expecting to find a dollar in the palm.

—The world is divided because of the theories and opinions of men, and not because of God.

—Not until Christian love their God more than party, will the saloon be a thing of by-gone days.

Roann, Ind.,

The Drink Problem

Rev. F. D. Powers.

There is an awful leprosy upon us. There is a tyranny of one worse than the Turk, a slavery a hundredfold more savage than that which bound the negro, fastened upon our body politic. We have licensed hell. We grant the devil for a consideration absolute freedom to produce misery and profligacy, cruelty and wickedness, disgrace and social demoralization; to transform creatures of heaven into the felon, the harlot, the pauper and the madman. We have permitted an organized satanic despot to be reared in our midst, which has boundless resources, moves forward with gigantic strides, crushes millions of victims, inflames society with all the passions of the pit. It is the school of anarchy, the breeding-ground of criminals, the nursery of woe, the sworn foe of the church. Economically, politically, religiously, this is the problem.